

Mike Mohajer Retires and Returns!



Pictured above are Linda Moulton-Patterson, Waste Board Chair, and Michael Paparian, Waste Board member, presenting Mike Mohajer (left) with a scroll commending his hard work and dedication to solid waste issues during his employment with the County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works. Moulton-Patterson said, "Mike's been the one person to come up reliably and passionately in the interest of this region – and for that, we thank him."

After working with the Task Force for over a decade, Mike Mohajer announced his retirement from the County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works at the March 20, 2003, Task Force meeting. Mike has been a dedicated, impassioned member, acting as the alternate for Jim Noyes, Director of the County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works. Mike devoted 29 years of his career to environmental protection and waste management concerns. His expertise in waste management issues had always been evident in Task Force discussions. Acting also as staff to the Task

Force, Mike not only represented the interests of the County, but also of all jurisdictions within the County of Los Angeles. Mike used his expertise and knowledge in waste management to effectively communicate the positions and concerns of the Task Force to the State Legislature and to the California Integrated Waste Management Board.

Mike began his career with the County of Los Angeles, then worked for the private industry for a short term. He returned to the County in 1979. In 2000, he became Assistant Deputy Director for the Department of Public Works, heading the Environmental Programs Division. During this time, he worked diligently to help the County comply with the requirements of AB 939 by guiding the helm of every aspect of the Environmental Programs Division. In addition, Mike has also held positions with environmental committees and associations. He was appointed to the California Integrated Waste Management Board Local Government Technical Advisory Committee and is a Director of the Southern California Waste Management Forum. Mike also continues to serve as the Chair of the Solid Waste Association of North America, California Chapter's Legislative Task Force. Mike Mohajer has contributed countless hours of thoughtful planning, creativity, and energy to the Task Force and to the County of Los Angeles.

But wait - Mike hasn't left! After Mike's retirement, on May 13, 2003, the County Board of Supervisors formally appointed him to the Task Force, this time as an Alternate to David Roberti acting as the representative for the public on the Task Force. Welcome back, Mike!

JOIN THE TEAM: If you are interested in participating on the Los Angeles County Solid Waste Management Public Education Subcommittee or if you would like to submit an article for *Inside Solid Waste* please contact **Emily Montanez** at (626) 458-3579, or emontanez@ladpw.org. Quarterly meetings are held at the County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works Headquarters to discuss and review upcoming newsletters. If you feel you have something to contribute why not become a member of the Subcommittee?

Innovation in Baldwin Park Makes a Difference

In the heart of the San Gabriel Valley, the City of Baldwin Park is nestled between the crossroads of the San Bernardino and the San Gabriel River Freeways. As such, it is a challenge to keep up with all the trash, bottles, cans, and litter that flow off of the freeways and onto the city streets.

Baldwin Park received an annual block grant from the Department of Conservation (DOC) through funds generated by the State CRV program, an opportunity that puts City employees to the test in seeking and finding creative ways to promote beverage container recycling. Wendy Harris, Public Works Supervisor of Maintenance and Environmental Services for Baldwin Park, realized that they needed a mechanism to collect and ensure the processing of an abundance of valuable recyclable materials that were being discarded all over Baldwin Park.

Harris sat down at the drawing board and developed a unique program aimed at both educating the community and collecting these valuable materials. The grant funds were used to purchase a truck and hire a part-time employee to collect recyclable materials and conduct litter abatement along several miles of freeway frontage, dedicated alleys and at all City facilities and parks. The "DOC Recycle Truck" is decorated with bright colors advertising the enthusiastic "Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle" slogan. In 2002, over 2,800 pounds of beverage

containers and 6,100 pounds of other recyclables were collected making this innovative idea even more successful than they had initially hoped!

"In the beginning, I had hoped to collect a few hundred pounds of beverage containers and other recyclables each year. After all, it's only part time. I had never imagined that our program would be so successful. I believe the results we have achieved are truly in the spirit of the grant's intentions," said Harris when asked about the City's program.

In this case a funding opportunity, combined with creative thinking and the hard work of new staff has gone a long way! For more information about this program, contact Wendy Harris at the City of Baldwin Park, at (626) 960-3993 ext. 514.



The Baldwin Park Recycling Truck

Clarence Gieck Retires

Clarence Gieck, Chairman of the Los Angeles County Solid Waste Management Committee/Integrated Waste Management Task Force Public Education and Information Subcommittee, announced his retirement earlier this year.

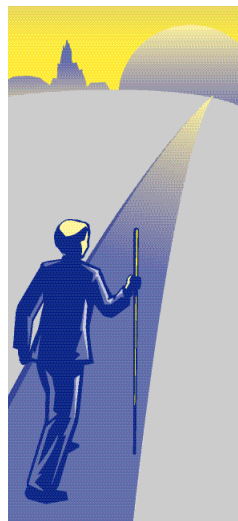
Clarence spent 25 years in the industry beginning in 1978 when he joined BKK Corporation as a Technical Services Manager. He was promoted to Environmental Service Manager and when he retired from BKK in 1996 he served as the liaison between BKK and all government agencies.

Clarence served on numerous committees including SCAG, San Gabriel Valley Council of Government, Southern California Waste Management Forum, Unincorporated Area Pilot Program, and was Commissioner on the Solid Waste Facilities Review Board for the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors. From

1990 until his recent retirement, Clarence was involved with GLASWMA and served on the Board of Directors, and was also President, and Vice President.

Trying to get the public to realize how important solid waste issues are was a priority for Clarence and he knew that *Inside Solid Waste* was a great vehicle to accomplish this. He always wanted to make sure everyone would be able to understand all aspects of the solid waste industry, no matter how technical the issue was, and made sure this newsletter was interesting for anyone to read.

Clarence will be missed by so many people and by so many organizations. Clarence was a knowledgeable, honest, and warm individual who was dedicated to his work and the entire solid waste industry. Thanks for everything Clarence! We will miss you.



Now there's no excuse to throw away your unwanted household hazardous waste! Recycling of these materials has never been so easy. Aside from the County of Los Angeles and City of Los Angeles events that are held on weekends, there are now three permanent centers that are open every weekend. The centers are operated by the City and open to all County residents.

Materials such as paint, motor oil, anti-freeze, cleaning products, and pesticides can be taken to any of the four locations. Electronic waste will also be accepted including computers, monitors, printers, televisions, and cell phones.

Please read each permanent center description below for details or call 1-800-98-TOXIC or 1(888)CLEAN-LA for more information.

Gaffey Street collection center
1400 N. Gaffey St.
San Pedro, CA 90021
Open Friday, Saturday, and Sunday 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

Hyperion Treatment Plant
7660 W. Imperial Highway, Gate B
Playa Del Rey, CA 90293
Open Saturdays and Sundays 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

Washington Boulevard collection center
2649 E. Washington Blvd.
Los Angeles, CA 90021
Open Friday, Saturday, and Sunday 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

Randall Street S.A.F.E. center
11025 Randall St.
Sun Valley, CA 91352
Open Saturday, Sunday, and Monday
9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

What's Up?

HHW ROUNDUPS are open from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. unless otherwise indicated. For more information, call the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works, at 1(888)CLEAN-LA (253-2652). For information about City of Los Angeles events call 1(800)98-TOXIC (988-6942).

July 26	Hawthorne - Betty Ainsworth Sports Center El Segundo Blvd. and Doty Ave.
August 2	Norwalk and Cerritos - Cerritos College 11110 Alondra Blvd.
August 9	Whittier - Rio Hondo College 3600 Workman Mill Road
August 16	Arcadia - Santa Anita Race Track, Gate 6 Colorado Place
August 16 9am - 2pm	Sierra Madre - Mariposa Ave. Parking Lot, Mariposa Ave. just west of Baldwin Ave.
August 16-17	Reseda - Reseda High School 18230 Kittridge St. Parking lot at Kittridge St. & Lindley Ave. (Conducted by the City of Los Angeles)
August 23	Glendora - Citrus College, Barranca Ave. north of Alosta
August 23	South Gate - South Gate Park. Tweedy Blvd. at Hildreth Ave.
Sept. 6	Carson - Joint Water Pollution Control Plant West Maintenance Building 24501 South Figueroa St.
Sept. 13	Burbank - Burbank Fire Department Training Center, 1845 Ontario St.
Sept. 13 - 14	Granada Hills - John F. Kennedy High School 11254 Gothic Ave., Parking Lot (Conducted by the City of Los Angeles)
Sept. 20	Alhambra - LA County DPW Headquarters Parking Lot, 900 South Fremont Ave.
Sept. 20 9am - 2pm	South Pasadena - South Pasadena Unified School District Headquarters Parking Lot on Diamond Ave. and Mission St.
Sept. 27	Huntington Park - Huntington Park City Yard 6900 Bissell St.

TASK FORCE MEETINGS

Meetings will be held at the
County of Los Angeles Depart-
ment of Public Works
Headquarters, 900 South
Fremont Avenue, Alhambra.

July 17
August 21
September 18

All meetings are
scheduled for 1:00 p.m.
in conference room B.

For information
call Stacey Haro
at (626) 458-3547.
M-Th, 7:00 a.m. -
5:30 p.m.

THE RECYCLING TIP SHEET

LOCAL RECYCLING COORDINATORS TO RECEIVE RECOGNITION AT ANNUAL CRRA CONFERENCE

California's local recycling coordinators will receive special recognition from the Department of Conservation (DOC) for their efforts in raising awareness for bottle and can recycling at this year's California Resource Recovery Association (CRRA) annual conference.

The DOC will soon be issuing the annual city/county checks. In an effort to properly promote this partnership, the DOC is taking active steps to highlight the local recycling efforts at this year's CRRA conference. When recycling coordinators visit the DOC booth, staff will be on hand to promote each individual city/county payment award, as well as their local efforts to increase the recycling rate by distributing a local media release and photo with a personalized oversized city/county check.

Additionally, at this year's CRRA conference, the DOC is hosting workshops to discuss the new *Business-to-Business* outreach focus for 2003-4. Through team efforts, the DOC will create innovative and successful partnerships with California's businesses to provide the convenient recycling opportunities that Californians are demanding.

For more information about this year's CRRA conference, please visit www.crra.com or call 916-932-2209.

CHINESE LANGUAGE BOTTLE AND CAN RECYCLING OUTREACH MATERIALS NOW AVAILABLE

KJServices Environmental Consulting, has created a Chinese-language beverage container recycling outreach program based on the Department of Conservation's existing advertising materials.

The materials, which feature the tagline: "*Recycle. It's Good for the Bottle. It's Good for the Can.*" were used in a pilot program in the Los Angeles County communities of Monterey Park, Alhambra, and Arcadia. The goal of the project was to increase awareness for recycling in the selected Chinese communities and to measure any resulting increases in the amount of CRV materials recycled through either curbside programs or local Buy-Back Centers.

As part of this program, the following DOC outreach materials have been translated into Chinese:

Bumper Sticker: *Recycle. It's Good for the Bottle. It's Good for the Can.*

Poster: "Peace"

30 Second PSA Videos: *Baseball, Beach* and *Disco*. (Mandarin)

60-second radio spots: *Recycle My Boyfriend and Socks*. (Mandarin)

In addition, the project developed a newspaper ad and "postcard" promoting beverage container recycling, and listing the Buy-Back Centers located in the three-city pilot area.

The materials developed for this project are available for use by other cities and organizations throughout the State. Samples of the printed materials are available at no cost, copies of the translated audio or video spots are available for the cost of materials and production. This program was made possible through a grant from the California Department of Conservation.

For more information or to request samples or order video or audio copies, please contact Kevin Sales of KJServices Environmental Consulting at 562-693-0242 or send an email to Kjserv@aol.com.

TRASHED: BOTTLE AND CAN BEACH DISPLAY AVAILABLE IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA BEACH CITIES

In an ongoing effort to educate Californians about beverage container recycling, the Department of Conservation is making the "trashed" bottle and can beach display available for Southern California outreach events throughout this summer.

The beach display is a colorful, eye-catching representation of what it would be like at the beach if bottles and cans were left behind instead of deposited in a recycling bin. The display is accompanied by fact sheets designed to inform Californians about the importance of beverage container recycling and the possible negative effects "trashed" plastic, glass and aluminum containers can have on marine life. Click links to view the beach display in use at a "[2002 Coastal Clean-Up](#)" event and "[2002 Heal the Bay](#)" event.

For more information on how you can feature the "Trashed" Bottles and Cans Beach Display at your local beach/recycling event, please contact Sequoia Clare in writing at recyclingtips@consrv.ca.gov.

Task Force Welcomes David Roberti

Former State Senator David Roberti is the newest member of the Task Force. The County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors unanimously voted to appoint him to the Task Force as the Board's public representative on March 4, 2003. "His appointment will further elevate the stature and credibility of the Task Force before the State Legislature and the Waste Board, and the public interests would be well served," indicated the Board's motion.

David Roberti graduated from Loyola Marymount University in 1961 and from the University of Southern California Law School in 1964. He currently teaches political science at both of these universities. He is also a practicing attorney at the law firm Roberti Jensen, LLP.

However, he is best known for serving in the State Legislature for 28 years, including a record 13 years as Senate President Pro Tem. During his years in the State Legislature, Senator Roberti chaired the Senate Rules, Judiciary, Northridge Earthquake, Small Business Enterprise, and the Assembly Labor Relations committees. He demonstrated his dedication to environmental concerns by sponsoring AB 939, the groundbreaking California Integrated Waste Management Act of 1989. His interest in the environment led him to serve on the California Integrated Waste Management Board from 1998 to 2002.

When asked to share his feelings about his appointment to the Task Force, Mr. Roberti explained, "The Task Force will allow me to utilize the knowledge I gained both in the Legislature and as a member of the Integrated Waste Management Board in Sacramento to work on solutions to our solid waste problem which are pragmatic, environmentally sound and resource recovery friendly." David Roberti is a welcomed addition to the Task Force and we are certain that his future with the Task Force will be just as successful as his impressive past endeavors.

SANTA MONICA IMPLEMENTS COMMINGLED RECYCLING

The City of Santa Monica is one of the most densely populated urban areas in California. It is 8.3 square miles, and has a population of approximately 90,000 residents. Previously, the city had initiated a commingled recycling pilot program and successfully placed 400 300-gallon containers in the area from Ocean Ave. to 26th St., between Wilshire Blvd. and Montana Ave. The objective of the project was to expand a convenient and sustainable commingled recycling program to multi-family dwellings in the City of Santa Monica.

Securing a competitive grant from the California Department of Conservation in the amount of \$139,371 for the grant period May 1, 2001 to February 28, 2003 was invaluable. This funding allowed the City to purchase 519 300-gallon recycling containers to place in the Pico neighborhood, one of the most densely populated multi-family areas with approximately 2.20 persons per household.

An awareness program started with the embossed signage imprinted directly into the lid of the 300-gallon blue container. It is 13'w x 2' h, bearing the message: THIS COMMINGLED RECYCLING PROJECT WAS FUNDED IN WHOLE OR IN PART THROUGH A GRANT AWARDED BY THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION.

In addition, flyers in English and Spanish were hand-delivered to the area during placement, an article in the Santa Monica Sun about the grant received, an article in the Santa Monica Daily Press about the improvement and adjustment of container specifications, and a press release announcing the citywide commingled program to local media outlets, the city's own web site, and City TV.

The commingled recycling container materials are picked up twice weekly by city staff then transported by automated CNG (compressed natural gas) collection truck to the city's certified recycling facility, Allan Company, located next to the city yards. The monies collected from CRV collection are deposited into the City of Santa Monica's Solid Waste and Recycling Division's recycling revenue account for future maintenance or replacement of recycling bins, and/or equipment associated with the commingled recycle bins.

For questions about this grant or other programs in Santa Monica, please call Laura Cronin at (310)458-8596.



HAWTHORNE BUSINESSES TO SAVE MILLIONS FROM NEW COMMERCIAL REFUSE AND RECYCLING SYSTEM

Larry Guidi, Mayor of the City of Hawthorne, signed Agreements with eight firms today that authorize them to provide refuse and recycling services to Hawthorne businesses beginning May 1, 2003. Mayor Guidi also sent a letter to all businesses describing this new system.

In his letter to businesses, Mayor Guidi notes, "The prices proposed by these firms are expected to save Hawthorne businesses collectively over \$2 million dollars each year." He concluded his letter by noting, "The City is proud that we can provide you with more services and lower costs for your solid waste and recycling services."

H&C Disposal currently provides all refuse, recycling and yard waste collection and disposal from residential and commercial sectors as the exclusive City contractor. The new system will allow 8 haulers to compete to collect all those materials from businesses in Hawthorne, under semi-exclusive franchises. H&C was selected earlier this year to continue to provide residential services on an exclusive basis.

Seven firms have been awarded agreements to provide commercial services, five firms have been awarded agreements to provide services to multi-family dwellings, and five firms have been awarded agreements to provide roll-off service to businesses and residents.

Commercial franchisees are required to offer recycling services, but those costs are not included in the proposed rates, as they will have to compete with independent recyclers to provide those services. Businesses will be asked to reduce their wastes by 50%, and they will be able to choose whether their waste hauler or other recyclers can do the best recycling for them.

Franchisees authorized to provide service to multi-family dwellings are required to provide FREE recycling services to all these accounts. This was done to offer the maximum amount of recycling services to multi-family dwellings, to divert more wastes from landfill from this challenging sector.

Businesses and multi-family complexes that divert more wastes will also immediately reduce their refuse collection costs.

The City has authorized maximum Service Fees that can be charged by these firms. Franchisees will be able to offer even lower rates to compete. But they cannot charge any more than what they proposed during the first two years of the contract. More information on this system and maximum Service Fees authorized may be found on the City website at http://www.cityofhawthorne.com/pwks_cref-index.htm.

Los Angeles County
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